ATTORNEY DOCKET: A00002

We claim:

1. An editing system for editing a plurality of media material to produce a resulting media composition consisting of interlaced frames having multiple fields, and identified by an edit decision list (EDL), said system comprising:

an editor for performing editing actions on one of said plurality of media material in response to editing instructions corresponding to said editing actions;

an EDL generator for generating in response to said editing actions an edit decision list (EDL), said EDL including a sequence of said interlaced frames corresponding to said resulting media composition and a field relationship between said interlaced frames.

2. The editing system of claim 1 wherein said field relationship represents an alternating cadence of video fields associated with each frame of said resulting media composition.

3. The editing system of claim 1 wherein said media material is a video signal derived from and corresponding to film material.

4. The editing system of claim 2 wherein the cadence in said pulldown relationship includes alternating the number of fields for each frame.

5. The editing system of claim 1 wherein said media material is material videotape.

6. The editing system of claim 1 wherein said EDL generates said EDL including metadata for communicating with a downstream processor.

7. The editing system of claim 6 wherein said metadata indicates which fields of the output composition are to be handle in a similar fashion by said downstream processor.

8. The editing system of claim 7 wherein said downstream processor performs color correction between said multiple fields.

9. The editing system of claim 7 wherein said downstream processor is a compression engine including a MPEG-2 encoder, and said downstream processor selects a compression strategy in response to said EDL.

10. The editing system of claim 10 wherein said compression strategy is responsive to whether said media material is progressive or interlaced material.

11. The editing system of claim 6 wherein said downstream processor is an on-line editing system.

12. The editing system of claim 6 wherein said downstream processor establishes audio synchronization with frame timing of said media material.